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The Arlington Advocate

VOL. 116, NO. 3

Thursday, January 14, 1988

The Community Newspaper Since 1872

3 Sections

50 cents

Selectmen okay wine at gourmet restaurant

By DANA GARDNER
Advocate Editor

At least one Arlington restaurant can legally permit patrons to drink wine with their meals, the first exception allowed under a new town policy.

After months of wrangling with the issue of carry-in alcohol, selectmen granted The Gourmet Club, 452 Mass. Ave., an exception Monday to their restaurant license to allow wine on the premises. It was not an easy decision.

Just two months ago, selectmen voted to make it illegal under their licensing power for

restaurant patrons to bring in alcohol.

Before that there was no policy, nor did restaurant licenses forbid the practice. Several eateries, including The Gourmet Club, allowed carry-in beer or wine to be drunk on the premises.

Arlington is a so-called dry town, with no liquor stores, and only five liquor licenses in two restaurants and three social clubs.

On the urging of The Gourmet Club's owner, Lynn Goldman, selectmen set up a strict policy whereby exceptions could be granted, but only for carry-in wine.

Goldman reasoned that her establishment,

a critically acclaimed French restaurant, was unique. Its patrons used wine as part of the meal and were not the type to abuse alcohol or cause problems for the town, she said.

Goldman said her restaurant, the former Coffee Coffee, would go out of business by Jan. 1 if they were not allowed to permit wine drinking with meals.

Not all selectmen were convinced. The 3-2 vote Monday followed several motions, reversals and what amounted to impassioned speeches for and against the flow of wine in Arlington restaurants.

Voting against the exception were Select-

men Chairwoman Janemarie Hillier and Selectman Stephen Conroy. Supporting the carry-in wine were Selectmen Jack Donahue, Charlie Lyons and Bob Walsh.

Also voted down, 3-2, with the same dissenters, was a motion not to place the question of carry-in alcohol on the April 9 ballot as a referendum question.

That motion was quickly suggested by Lyons when Conroy and Hillier began discussing the merits and demerits of putting the non-binding question to the voters.

Conroy said the next day he resented Lyons making a motion to counter his motion

before there was opportunity to discuss it.

"I was really suprised to have a motion that said there will be no motion," Conroy said of Lyons' maneuver. "I can't recall an instance when the board voted to shut down the options of another before he gets to make it."

Conroy said he thinks a petition drive to put the question on the ballot may be in order.

Hillier said it is a "quality-of-life" decision and should go to the voters. Already slated for the ballot is question asking if the town prefers to have the traditional firehouse whistle blow or not.

(Please see WINE, page 13)

Dare devil



Greg Vouras, 7, of Arlington, skims over the moguls in mid-air at Robbins Farm last week; making a thrill of the snow pack. (Paul Drake photo)

Crime rate for 1987 takes moderate dip in most areas

Arlington's crime less than most similar communities

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

The rate of reported serious crimes in Arlington dropped last year more than 9 percent below 1986 levels, with 85 fewer incidents called in.

The largest decrease occurred in house breaks, according to statistics compiled by the Arlington Police Department. The number of breaking and entering reports in 1987 was 213, down 90 from the 303 reported in 1986.

"A decrease in breaking and entering reports is important and an area where we have been working," said

John Carroll, director of police services.

Of the seven categories — murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, breaking and entering, larceny, and auto theft — Arlington showed an increase in two categories, larceny and rape.

The decrease of 9.1 percent in 1987 comes after a 2.7 percent increase in 1986. The figures over the last few years, Carroll said, show a stabilization of the town's crime rate.

There were 20 aggravated assaults, a decrease of four from 1986. The number of robberies also fell from 18 in 1986 to 13 in 1987. Car thefts went down from 154 in 1986 to 148 last year, said Carroll.

An aggravated assault, Carroll explained, occurs when someone attacks another person, usually with a weapon.

A robbery is classified as a taking something from a person by force or through the threat of force, Carroll said.

Last year, there were no murders, while one murder was reported in 1986. Also in 1987 there were two reported rapes, an increase of one over the year before, Carroll said.

The only significant increase was in simple larcenies, such as taking untended bicycles, purses, lawn furniture, where the rate rose from 406 in 1986 to 426 in 1987.

That increase, Carroll said, is most likely due to the increase in the number of thefts of stereos and belongings from automobiles, which is included in the larceny category.

"People keep a lot more in cars, and the things in cars are worth a lot

(Please see CRIME, page 12)

Sex education for teen-agers to begin with talks to parents

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

What a difference a year can make. Not long ago issues such as teen-age sexuality and depression were often avoided in towns such as Arlington. Now, perhaps prompted by frank discussions to combat

the spread of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), these issues and others are being openly examined by the community.

It has been less than a year since a selectmen's task force on teen-age sexuality released its report on educating

(Please see PARENTS, page 12)

Sometimes it's easier to start a small business than to sell it

By GREG POLLY
Special to the Advocate

Myer Goldstein, owner of Lake Hardware at 169 Mass. Ave., plans to go out of business soon. Known as "Goldy" to many residents of East Arlington, he has managed the store — mostly as a "one-man show" — for 51 years, making his the oldest store in East Arlington still run by the original owner. But Goldstein has

recently been "playing it by ear," looking — so far unsuccessfully — for someone to buy the store.

For the last two years he has been closing the shop at noon to return home and take care of his wife Cecile, who suffers from Parkinson's disease. Cecile has been ill for 20 years, but since 1985 she has been bedridden and requires help to get around the house. A nurse now stays with her during the morning and

Myer takes care of her persona needs in the afternoon and evening.

Medical expenses have been an ongoing difficulty. "Social services like Medicaid pay nothing at all," Goldstein says, "so all the expenses have been coming out of my pocket." Rent on the store has gone up recently as well, but Goldstein says the expenses would be manageable if he were working full time. His financial

(Please see STORE, page 12)

Arlington's booming condo market is soft

By NANCY MUZECK
Special to The Advocate

The Arlington condominium market seems to be reawakening from the recent slumber caused by the traditionally slow holiday season, the October stock market crash, abolished tax incentives for investors and an unusually high supply of condominiums on the market.

Though the holiday season has always slowed down real estate sales, Russ Arico, an owner of Century 21 American Hallmark, Inc., said it was unusually slow this year. Arico blamed the slump on the stock market crash and the fact that condo buyers are out for the best possible deal, especially since the condo supply has surpassed market demand.

Since Arlington remains more expensive than some neighboring towns, buyers are making their condo purchases a bit farther out in the suburbs. Arico has noticed condo sales already picking up, however, and predicts a brisk spring market. He attributes this to Arlington's being "a great town to live in as it is close to Boston, conveniently located to major roads, such as Routes 2 and 128 and the turnpike, and is well serviced by mass transit. Arlington has also retained its town government and a small community atmosphere that is unusual so close to Boston."

Kevin O'Brien, assistant director of the Arlington Department of Planning and Community Development, thinks that the new tax laws, passed in 1986, may also have depressed condo sales by removing the incentive for investors to buy condominiums for use as rental property. Stated O'Brien, "Under the new laws, rental property may no longer be quickly depreciated for a tax advantage to the investor."

Peter Kasch, executive vice president of Condominium Collaborative in Boston, attributed the recent market slump to the holiday season, but agreed with Arico that the market

'Arlington is a solid, reliable community that offers good value with low investment risk.'

— Peter Kasch
Condo Collaborative
of Boston

was currently overloaded with condos. He also affirmed that interest in condos was again picking up and that Arlington was a good place to buy as "it is a solid, reliable community that offers good value with low investment risk."

Condominium Collaborative was responsible for Watermill Place Condominiums, which have been on sale since May, with 60 percent of the 130 units sold, though some construction remains to be completed. Kasch thinks that the oversupply of condos does allow buyers to be more demanding, but that "Watermill Place offers what current buyers want at a good price. Also, Arlington seems to inspire loyalty. Most Watermill Place purchasers are now, or have been, Arlington residents. A lot of condo buyers are young singles or childless couples, but many are middle-aged people, with their children raised, who want to buy down to a smaller home, but don't want to leave Arlington."

While he thinks that Arlington is a convenient location with good services, Harry Barber, a broker with Scanlan & Bowes Realtors, feels that condo buyers differ from others in the real estate market in that they have no area loyalty, but simply want to make the best deal possible. Barber thinks that condo buyers are general-



Condos such as these at Glenbrook Estates off Summer Street are still selling in the \$200,000 range, but not as quickly as they did. Some condo prices have fallen with the softened market. (Paul Drake photo)

ly looking for better deals than those currently offered by the Arlington market.

According to Alan McClennen Jr., AICP, director of the Arlington Department of Planning and Community development, "Arlington is

land poor, and, though Arlington's population has decreased by about 20 percent since 1970, while the number of housing units has increased, the shortage of property for new con-

(Please see CONDOS, page 10)



Town Clerk Ann Powers works beneath a gold-like plow each day, but doesn't have a clue to where it came from. Neither does anyone else. (Paul Drake photo)

Golden plow provides fodder for mystery

By BETH GERMANO
Special to the Advocate

There's a mystery brewing in the town clerk's office. It has nothing to do with marriage licenses or birth certificates. But is has plenty to do with a piece of Arlington history that's very difficult to trace.

A gilt-wood model of an old plow sits on top of a bookcase in the clerk's office. Some longtime residents say the golden replica has been there for years, others say decades, still others guess it was the turn of the century. No one seems to know for sure who

(Please see PLOW, page 13)

Local man badly hurt in Medford

A 70-year-old Arlington man was among six persons injured when a runaway station wagon smashed through the front window of a Super Stop & Shop in Medford on Tuesday. It is the second similar accident in two months, police said.

Joseph Saraceni of Arlington was temporarily caught underneath the 1987 Oldsmobile station wagon driven by Walter Albano, 76, of Medford.

Albano was pulling out of a parking spot at the super store in Fellsway Plaza when the car suddenly accelerated and crashed through a front entrance of the store, sending employees and customers running to avoid shattered glass, said Officer Thomas Walsh, a city traffic investigator.

The vehicle traveled for about 70 feet at an estimated 25 m.p.h., crashed through the sliding glass doors and finally came to a stop inside the store lobby against a line of shopping cars, Walsh said.

On its trek, the car struck window washer James Love, 46, of Mattapan, and two customers leaving the store, Dennis Quinn, 38, of Somerville, and Saraceni.

Love and Quinn were dragged 30 to 35 feet, Walsh said. Saraceni was apparently caught underneath the car for a short time, police said.

Saraceni was the most seriously injured in the 10:30 a.m. accident and was taken for multiple trauma to Malden Hospital.

He was later transferred to Massachusetts General Hospital where he underwent emergency surgery and was listed in stable condition on Wednesday, said a hospital spokeswoman.

Love and Quinn were both taken to Malden Hospital where they were treated for cuts and minor injuries and held overnight for observation.

Two unidentified store cashiers were injured by flying glass.

Albano, the driver, complained of chest pains and was taken to Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford, but was later released.

The car apparently passed inspection last December, but was being impounded until an investigation into the accident is complete, said Walsh. No charges have been filed against Albano at this time, police said.

Window doctor helps interior design blues

By ANNE-MARIE SELTZER
Special to the Advocate

Are your windows suffering from *visuale unattractiva*? Are you frustrated from trying to choose the right look for your bathroom window? If the answer is yes, perhaps it's time to have The Window Doctor. Bob Crawford, make a free house call.

Located at 1092 Mass. Ave., the Window Doctor opened his practice on Aug. 31 and, thus far, "hasn't found a sick window he couldn't cure." The Doctor is in Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. To arrange a house call, dial 643-9200.

Crawford, a/k/a Dr. Bob, specializes in interior window design. He treats "sick windows" - windows that are not decorated to complement the decor of the room, or windows with the wrong treatment. "One of the biggest mistakes that people make in their home or office is putting the wrong size product in a window," he said.

The former owner of Norfolk Wallpaper and Paint, Crawford brings 19 years of experience to his role as The Window Doctor. He said, "My greatest asset is my knowledge. Even though this business is highly competitive, most of the other companies simply don't have the experience and the expertise to solve the customer's problems. They tell a customer, 'It can't be done.' I tell them, 'Yes, it can and here's how we'll do it.' My competitors also, can't beat my prices."

Over the years, Crawford has had many interesting customers, but probably none more famous than Pope

John Paul II. "I was asked to decorate the trailer that His Holiness used as a changing room when he celebrated Mass in Boston in 1979. I selected everything - the paint, window decor, and upholstery." In 1981, he spent six weeks in Kuwait on a decorating project.

Employing the services of The Window Doctor is initially free. Crawford will visit a home or office, take measurements, and suggest the appropriate decor. At that point, the decision rests with the customer. If the diagnosis is accepted, Crawford will take a deposit and cure the window with custom-made treatments within three to five weeks.

"The high-pressure sales approach isn't my style. I encourage people to go out and get a second opinion, and compare prices. If a customer's needs can be met by merchandise that is available at a store like Bradlees or K-Mart, I'll tell them that, too. I'm honest because my reputation means everything to me," he said.

If a customer wants his services, Crawford suggests a phone call or a visit after the rest of the room has been completed. He said, "In a decorating operation, I'm the last person who should be called in. Windows pull a room together. How they're decorated can't be decided until the rug, furniture, paint or wallpaper are in place."

Each day as The Window Doctor is a challenge, according to Crawford. "When I go on a call, I never know what problem I'll encounter. So far, I've been able to cure every problem, including how to properly decorate angled (trapezoid) windows," he

NEW BUSINESS



Bob Crawford, the self-professed Window Doctor, examines a vertical blind that may soon help save an ailing portal. The doctor has been "in" since August. (Paul Drake photo)

said. "One of my next assignments is decorating a solarium in Maine."

To be successful also requires customer trust. "When I'm doing a job, I know exactly what the completed window will look like, but the customers usually can't. They have to trust me and my judgment. My greatest accomplishment is completing a job and pleasing the customer," he said.

Since Crawford started in the wallcovering, paint, and wallpaper

business in 1969, window looks have changed dramatically. "Years ago, green and white shades were very popular, along with venetian blinds with wide cloth tape. Today, people can choose micro- or mini-blinds, or pleated shades, the hottest item."

"The current trend in a contemporary setting is low or no maintenance designs. Vertical blinds do the trick here because of the way they're hung - no dust collects. Pleated shades also require little care

because they're rolled up most of the day," he said.

Crawford is currently servicing patients as far north as York, Maine, and as far south as Foxboro and Attleboro.

Asked to sum up his business philosophy, he said, "When someone wants information, I give them my best knowledge. I also arrive for all appointments on time, take accurate measurements, and clean up a house or office when the work is finished."

LIBRARY NOTES

vibrant part of the community.

Other attendees include Helen Carter, Jan Colbert, Nancy Gentile, Page Lindsay, Stella Shen, Elizabeth Steinhilber, Maryellen Remmert and Mary White.

Library closed for King Day

The Robbins Library System will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18 in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Drop-in programs to resume

The drop-in programs for children ages 15-36 months (with an adult) have resumed on a weekly schedule at both Fox and Dallin Branch Libraries.

The sessions, which include a story and song time, and both large and small motor activities, run from 9:30-11 a.m. The programs are held

at the Fox Branch on Wednesdays and at the Dallin Branch on Thursdays. To reserve a spot, call the Recreation Department at 646-1000 x4770 between 9 and 9:30 a.m. on the morning that you wish to attend.

Sign-up programs for Toddlers and twos are held at the main Robbins Junior Library. Some openings still exist for the April-May session. For more information, call the Junior Library at 646-1000 x4306.

January is dinosaur month

The Robbins Junior Library is celebrating Dinosaur Month this January with displays of dinosaur books and pictures and puzzle sheets and pencil games for children to take home or complete at the library.

A dinosaur story and craft time will be held on Saturday, Jan. 23, at 10:30 a.m. To sign-up for this program call 646-1000 x4306 or come in person to the Junior Library desk.

Children's movies on Saturday

Two short movies for children ages 4 and up will be held in the rear of the Art and Music Department at the main Robbins Library on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 10:30 a.m.

The movies, "The Happy Prince" and "Many Moons," are both based on children's books; screening time is 35 minutes.

Sign ups for storytimes under way

Sign-ups are now being taken for the Spring Sessions of Storyhours for 3's and for 4's and 5's at the main Robbins Library and at the Fox and Dallin Branches. The schedule is as follows: Fox Branch, Mondays, 3-5's, 10; Dallin Branch, Tuesdays, 3's, 10; 4-5, 11; Junior Library Thursday, 3's, 11, 4-5's, 9-45.

Drop-in storyhours for children ages 3-5 continue during January and February at all three library locations. That schedule is: Fox Branch, Mondays at 10 a.m., Dallin Branch, Tuesdays at 10 a.m., and Junior Library, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

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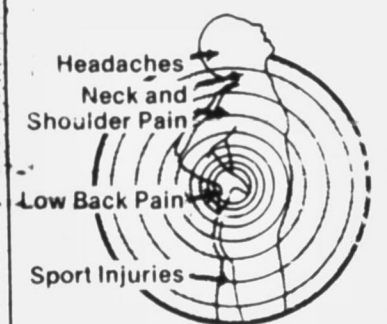
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Selectmen approve transfer of cable TV license to Continental



Arlington Cable Systems on Mystic Street has a new owner, but a license transfer must occur before it's final. Continental Cablevision Inc. of Boston recently purchased the company that operates the Arlington franchise.

(Paul Drake photo)

By DANA GARDNER
Advocate Editor

It may not happen officially for two months, but pending okays in other communities across the country, Arlington will soon have a new company running its cable television system.

Continental Cablevision Inc. of Boston won approval of the Board of Selectmen this week for transfer of the local franchise license. The firm reached an agreement in October to buy American Cablesystems of Beverly, the firm that won Arlington's original franchise in 1980.

The sale will not be final until the other towns with cable systems owned by American across the country follow Arlington's lead and approve local license transfers.

Representatives of both companies attended a public hearing Monday and pledged to keep the programming and

quality of the Arlington system the same.

The operations, programming, personnel and site of the cable operator will be unchanged, said Ed Holleran, regional vice president for American, who will stay in that position under Continental.

"There will be no perceivable change to customers," Holleran said of the 12,000 Arlington cable subscribers.

A rate increase for Arlington subscribers will be made in April, however, Holleran said the increase had been planned by American before the sale agreement. Specifics of the rate increase were not mentioned.

The Arlington and new Cambridge cable systems management offices and technical facilities will apparently be merged, cable representatives said.

Customer offices and studios will remain in Arlington, but management offices will be housed in Cambridge, which is also under American's ownership, Holleran said. He said there would be no lay offs of staff in Arlington.

During the hearing, the chairman of the selectmen's Cable Advisory Committee, Philip McCarthy, said he saw no problem with transferring the license to Continental, the third largest cable carrier in the country.

"I see absolutely no reason why the transfer should be withheld," said McCarthy, who explained that Continental has a good reputation and strong financial resources.

Tony Perduto, general manager of Arlington Cablesystems, the first holding American Cablesystems Corp. acquired, will become in charge of several nearby towns already owned

by Continental, he said. He will work out of Woburn.

Arlington programming director, Michael Leone, will continue in his current position, he said.

Answering a question by Selectman Stephen Conroy, Holleran said Continental will continue the practice of helping Arlington install flags along Mass. Ave. on holidays. The cable firm has used its so-called cherry pickers to hoist the U.S. flags in place and remove them.

Answering a question by Selectman Chairwoman Janemarie Hillier, Holleran also pledged to continue the educational aspects and cooperation with the public schools that have developed under ownership by American Cablesystems.

Selectmen unanimously approved the transfer.

Fundraising drive under way to prepare for library expansion bid

Bank Five President Janet M. Pavliska will host a fundraising reception on Jan. 20 to launch the campaign for the restoration and expansion of Robbins Library.

Former Boston Celtics player M.L. Carr, author of the recently published book "Don't Be Denied," will be special guest at the Arlington Center bank branch. Carr was with the Detroit Pistons from 1976 to 1979 and the Celtics from 1979 to 1985.

Guests who donate \$500 or more will receive an autographed copy of Carr's book. In addition, those who pledge \$1000 or more will be eligible for a weekend to an away Celtics game this spring. The drawing for the weekend, which includes game tickets, transportation and hotel, will be made at the close of the party.

"We are delighted to host this campaign kickoff party for Robbins Library," said Pavliska. "The library has been a tremendous resource to generations of Arlingtonians and this expansion represents an investment in the future."

Carr will be representing the New England News Exchange through its local members, The Arlington Advocate and WNEV-TV, Channel 7. He is on the board of directors at Channel 7. Also present will be Chuck Goodrich, publisher of The Advocate.

The Bank Five reception is the first event in the 1988 fund drive to raise \$400,000 from private sources.

The Arlington Town Meeting last spring voted a bond issue for the \$6.7 million project contingent on the town receiving \$3.7 million in state aid and private funds.

The campaign, "Robbins Library, Growing Into the Next Century — Continuing the Robbins Tradition," is headed by John P. Mirak, honorary chairman, and Margaret H. Spengler, chairman.

According to Spengler, the \$400,000 funds will be used for furnishings, shelving and equipment in the main library. Donors who wish may choose a particular gift, such as a room, the elevator, courtyard, tables and chairs which are described in a "wish list" book.

The addition designed by Arlington architect David Wallace of Wallace, Floyd Associates, Inc., will add 21,700 square feet of space, including a new Children's Room especially designed for child-size needs and activities. A new reference

room, book stacks and study carrels are part of the addition.

Renovation of 21,000 square feet in the existing building is also part of the project. The main library was built and furnished in 1892 at a cost of \$150,000, the gift of Maria Farmer Robbins in memory of her husband, Eli.

It featured the finest — various marbles, carved Corinthian pillars, vaulted arches, gilded rotunda, iron-work, slate roof, all in Italian Renaissance style, with custom oak furniture and gas and electric fixtures made by Shreve, Crump & Low.

The library was built when the library's collection was only 12,183 volumes, but was anticipated to handle 60,000 volumes.

"The main library now has more than 160,000 books, periodicals and audio-visual materials," said Library Director Maryellen Remmert. "The library also provides art prints, microfilms, microfilm readers and

special equipment, as well as services never imagined in 1892."

Over the years a Junior Library was added on, mezzanine stacks were installed, the reading room became the reference room, the public meeting room was taken over for technical services, the gallery was lined with shelves and every bit of space was used — often to the detriment of the architectural details of the building which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The renovation will include restoring the reading room to that purpose, reopening the meeting room, moving the Local History Room to climate-controlled quarters, a new elevator and restrooms, and restoring skylights and the rotunda.

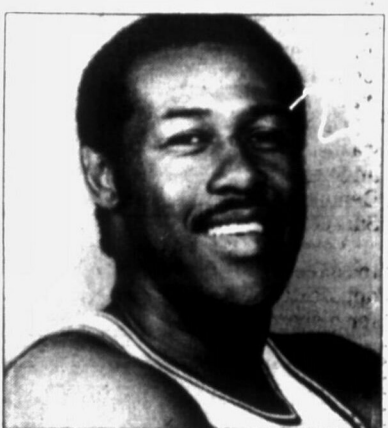
The Robbins Library Trustees have approved the renovation and expansion plan to relieve the severe overcrowding. The board is pleased that Spengler, a former trustee and longtime supporter of the library, has

agreed to head the campaign committee. Volunteers are getting ready to begin solicitation of tax-deductible gifts and pledges which may be made over a three-year period. Credit card donations will also be welcomed.

The committee is preparing two publications which describe the building program. These will be available in all library branches.

Chuck Kraemer of Arlington, arts and entertainment reporter for WCVB-TV, Channel 5, will be filming a videotape of life at Robbins Library. At the end of the month he will be in the library interviewing patrons.

The campaign committee is (See LIBRARY, page 14)



Former Celtic M.L. Carr

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MOONSTRUCK (PG)
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FRI-SAT-SUN 11:45 PM NO PASSES

GOOD MORNING VIETNAM (R)
★ 12:00-2:25-4:50-7:20-10:00
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:15 AM NO PASSES

THE COUCH TRIP (R)
★ 12:40-2:50-5:05-7:20-9:35
FRI-SAT-SUN 11:35 PM NO PASSES

FOR KEEPS (PG-13)
★ 12:50-3:00-5:15-7:30-9:45
FRI-SAT-SUN 11:45 PM

RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD II (R)
FRI & TUE-THU 1:00-3:15-5:30-7:45-10:00
SAT-SUN MON 5:30-7:45-10:10/F-S 12 MID

BROADCAST NEWS (R)
★ 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:10
DOLBY FRI-SAT-SUN 12:30 AM NO PASSES

EDDIE MURPHY RAW (R)
★ 1:00-3:15-5:30-8:00-10:15
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:00 MID

OVERBOARD (PG)
5:05-7:40-10:00
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:00 MID

WALL STREET (R)
★ 12:10-2:35-5:00-7:30-10:10
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:20AM

THROW MOMMA FROM THE TRAIN (PG-13)
★ 1:00-3:00-5:15-7:40-10:10
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:00 MID

THREE MEN & A BABY (PG)
★ 12:50-3:00-5:20-7:40-10:10
DOLBY FRI-SAT-SUN 12:00 MID NO PASSES

FATAL ATTRACTION (R)
★ 12:15-2:35-5:00-7:30-10:00
FRI-SAT-SUN 12:15 AM

CINDERELLA (G)
SAT-SUN MON ONLY
★ 1:30-3:30

BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED (PG)
★ 12:30-2:45

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Many hearing aids are equipped with telephone coils, but not all telephones are compatible with these coils. However, as of the beginning of this year, a federal law will insure that essential telephones such as pay phones, emergency phones and other telephones frequently needed by hearing aid users will be compatible with hearing aids.

The Federal Trade Commission will adopt technical standards for compatibility and all new telephone equipment will be labeled as such when applicable. Most Hearing aids are equipped with telephone switches that enable easier communication for the hearing impaired. In addition, other accessories are available that can be used directly with the phone. These include full handsets with volume controls, snap-on volume-controlled amplifiers and even separate boosters available for most modular (plug-in) phones.

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J&B 1.75 litre \$19⁹⁹	BALLANTINE SCOTCH 1.75 litre \$16⁹⁹	ABSOLUT 1.75 litre \$18⁹⁹
POLAND SPRINGS VODKA 1.75 litre \$8⁹⁹	PAUL MASSON 3.0 Litre \$5⁹⁹	LANCERS 1.5 litre \$5⁹⁹
MOET CHANDON WHITE STAR 750 ml \$17⁹⁹	GLEN ELLEN WHITE ZINFANDEL 750 ml \$3⁹⁹	MUMMS EXTRA DRY 750 ml \$16⁹⁹

Not responsible for typographical errors. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Applications open for unique townwide scholarship program

Scholarship application packets will be available on Jan. 15 for the 1988-89 competition of the Arlington Scholarship Fund. They may be picked up at Arlington High School, Arlington Catholic High School, Minuteman Regional Vocational School, Matignon High School, Boston College High School and at the town treasurers' department, first floor of town hall, said John Bilafer, chairman of the scholarship committee. Deadline for completed applications is April 15 and the application can be mailed as long as it bears an April 15 postmark. It is anticipated that award recipients will be announced by June.

These scholarships will be competitive and based on the following eligibility requirements and criteria: 1) Open to ALL legal residents of the Town of Arlington; 2) Must be presently attending, or have received acceptance to attend, an ac-

credited institution beyond high school level prior to the time for payment of scholarship award; 3) Applicants will be evaluated on character, scholastic record, school and community activities, educational and professional aspirations and financial needs. Also, each recipient shall be interviewed by a member of the Scholarship Fund Committee prior to the award of any financial aid.

The scholarship applications will be scored in accordance with procedures established by the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America (CSFA), a national non-profit scholarship organization with which the town is affiliated and which has 278 city and town affiliates in 28 states. All applications are received in the Town Treasurer's Department, assigned a number and considered anonymously thereafter. Scoring is done by representatives of the Scholarship

Fund Committee.

One person is assigned to score a category or element within a category so as to insure uniformity of scoring within that category or element.

In 1983 Governor Dukakis signed home-rule legislation sponsored by the Town of Arlington to establish a first-in-the-nation townwide scholarship fund, the principal of which comprises the voluntary contributions of taxpayers by means of a check-off procedure on local tax bills. The income earned from this pool of taxpayer contributions is used to provide annual scholarship aid for qualified Arlington residents.

In 1986 state-wide legislation authorizing all local governments to adopt the tax check-off concept became law. To date, a number of Massachusetts cities and towns are in varying stages of establishing similar scholarship programs.

HEALTH

Babysitting course offered

A responsible babysitter is in demand! Babysitters assume a tremen-

dous amount of responsibility when caring for young children. Take a step in becoming better educated in this field.

Choate-Symmes Health Services has scheduled classes to qualify boys

and girls ages 11 to 15 in babysitter training.

Topics to be covered include fire safety, home security, telephone tips, chokesaving and basic first aid. Child care areas such as diapering, mealtime and discipline problems are also discussed.

This program also benefits those young people who will be without adult supervision after school, and how to deal with various emergencies which may occur.

Offered at Choate Hospital in Woburn on Thursdays, Jan. 14, 21, 28 from 3:15-5:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Please call Choate-Symmes Health Services Community Health Education Department at 646-1500, ext. 2291 for more information and registration.

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Solitude



A skater shares a section of Mystic Lake with no one Friday in the calm before a storm that dumped 9 inches of snow on Arlington.

(Paul Drake photo)

Thesda Street flooding victims suspicious of town plans for ditch

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

Amid a year of delays and finger-pointing, a band of Thesda Street residents has been waiting for relief from flooding in their homes apparently caused by a drainage culvert at the old town landfill.

The problem has surfaced again as the town's public works department is seeking permission to make a temporary 800-foot-long relief trench three feet deeper. The trench runs along the center of the planned site of the Reed Brook Village condominiums and townhouses project.

Thesda Street residents, who have begun a process to sue the town for the Christmas-time flooding more than a year ago, charge that the town is trying to destroy any evidence showing the town liable for the collapse of the drainage system.

The property owners' insurance companies have refused to pay for water damage to the houses. Four of the home-owners have since asked the town to pay \$73,800 to cover the cost. They were also successful in putting an article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant of Jan. 25.

Town officials maintain the developer is responsible for the culvert and any damage it may have caused.

"Why now? We've been after them for a more than a year to do something about the culvert and they decide to

work on it now," said Mary Caggiano, a Thesda Street resident.

"Every time they work on the site, they destroy more of what could show who is to blame," said Caggiano, one of those seeking damages from the town.

Although town officials have been at odds with the residents over who is to blame for the flooding — the town or the owners of the property — Director of Public Works Richard Bowler said there is no ulterior motive for working on the trench now.

"I resent the comments that if I find something wrong we will cover it up. Those are blatantly false charges," said Bowler.

"We are trying to provide some relief for the residents. We're doing the work now because we couldn't do the work in August. I've been trying to correct this problem for about 11-months," Bowler said.

Bowler notified the Conservation Commission, which has jurisdiction of wetlands areas, of his intention to make the drain three feet deeper. The commission's approval was needed to begin the work.

Caggiano and another Thesda Street resident, Tania Baniewicz, appeared at the commission's meeting last week to express the residents' concerns about work being done on the storm drain.

There is currently an agreement

among the town, the residents and the developer of the property, Thomas True of Eastern Harbor Associates, that calls for representatives of all parties to be present when the culvert is unearthed to determine who is at fault for the flooding.

After more than an hour of discussion, Conservation Commission Chairman Stephen Gilligan told the residents about the commission concerns about the environmental impact on nearby water supplies.

The commission did not vote on the project, but tabled the discussion until its next meeting, scheduled for tonight, Thursday, Jan. 14.

Since the meeting last week, the commission has written a letter to Bowler outlining members' concerns. The commission asked for more information about why the project is being done and how much relief will be granted by a three-foot deepening of the trench.

Other questions included the effects of digging the groundwater, with seepage through the layers of landfill, and whether the digging is in violation of a Department of Environmental Quality Engineering order for capping off the old landfill.

Bowler said he will answer the commission's concerns but said that every time the preventative work is put off

(Please see DITCH, page 14)

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TOWN HALL ROUNDUP

Board permits small apartment building

The Redevelopment Board has granted a special permit to allow a five-unit apartment building at the Foot of the Rocks on Mass. Avenue.

At a meeting on Monday, the board unanimously approved the special permit for the project proposed by Nelly J. Carbonell and the Carbonell Family Trust, who own the property at 1241-1245 Mass. Ave.

The board's approval is subject to an order of conditions and review of final building plans.

The Carbonells of Concord have owned the property, currently the site of a 11-story brick office building, since 1974. A four-unit apartment building on the site burned down in 1985.

Plans call for three townhouse apartment units and two basement units. The building would be joined with the current office building and the entire structure would be finished in wood.

The Carbonells have been trying to build on the site for nearly two years. After coming before the Redevelopment Board with a proposal earlier, the family was told the project would require a zoning variance because the plan violated the setback rule.

After receiving the Zoning Board of Appeals approval on Sept. 16, the Carbonells submitted revised plans for Mass. Avenue project.

"I have to say I like this project better than what was presented to us before," said Redevelopment Board member Philip J. McCarthy. "I think this is more in character with the area."

Richard Keshian, an attorney representing the developer through the review and approval process, said the revised plans reflect the concerns expressed during previous reviews of the

project.

"I think this project is a small, but important, addition to a sensitive historical area," Keshian said. "The present building is not an attractive building and adds nothing to the area."

"The project has gone through quite an evolution in the process," said Keshian.

The project is adjacent to a town-owned piece of park land at the Foot of the Rocks. The Carbonells have offered to landscape the park, which has fallen into a state of disarray over the years.

Finals plans for any work at the site would be subject to town approval, but the Carbonells have offered to fund and oversee the project so that the whole area is upgraded, Keshian said.

McCarthy told the developer although the reviewing process is sometimes protracted it's necessary to insure the town is livable. "Building owners come and go, but the buildings remain," he said.

Schools, town hall close to observe Martin Luther King

All schools and town offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

A clergyman and civil rights leader, King was assassinated in 1968.

Some stores and other businesses will be open and the MBTA bus lines and trains will operate on a Sunday schedule.

Annual Town warrent dates set

The warrent for the annual Town Meeting scheduled to begin April 25 was officially opened on Jan. 11 by selectmen.

The warrent will remain open until Feb. 1. A number of town officials and agencies can place items as articles on the warrent, including selectmen, Finance Committee, town manager and others.

Residents wishing to place an item on the warrent for consideration must present at least 10 signatures of registered voters to the town clerk before Feb. 1.

The annual Town Meeting conducts the majority of the legislative business of the town for the year, including finalizing the \$50 million budget, and authorizing the spending of town revenues.

The annual meeting will be the first to incorporate the suggestions of a task force set up last year by selectmen to streamline the meeting process.

A separate Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Jan. 25.

American Legion gets warning

Middlesex District Attorney Scott Harshbarger sent a letter to selectmen last week asking them to be aware that a drunk driver said he was served liquor at the American Legion post in Arlington shortly before being arrested on Dec. 14.

Harshbarger said he was not accusing the establishment of criminal or negligent conduct, but reaffirmed his belief that mixing drinking and driving in Middlesex County is a big problem.

Selectmen voted Monday to send a copy of Harshbarger's letter to

American Legion Post 39, on Mass. Ave. and warn them about serving patrons too much to drink if they drive.

The Legion holds one of five liquor licences in town.

Date of town election, April 9

Selectmen finalized the date for the annual town election as Saturday, April 9.

The town election comes little over a month after the Presidential

Primary vote on Tuesday, March 8, and about two weeks before the annual Town Meeting begins.

The primary vote, to decide the state's parties' choice to run for U.S. President, will be the first where voters use new punch-type voting machines. The clerk's office is gearing up for an educational program to get voters acquainted with the new machines.

The last day to register to vote in the presidential primary is Tuesday, Feb. 9.

(Please see ROUNDUP, page 9)

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Winter walk



A single walker dominates Eastern Avenue during the storm Friday that left Arlington with another 9 inches to live with. (Paul Drake photo)

What's Up

Listings deadline is Thursday at 5 p.m. Send your listing to: What's Up 3 Church St. Winchester, MA 01890

RELIGION

Clothing drive at St. Camillus

A clothing drive will be held on two consecutive weekends, Jan. 16 and 17, and Jan. 23 and 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Camillus old church hall in Arlington.

All clothing should be in wearable condition. It will be distributed to various charitable organizations as part of Eagle badge project requirement for Kenneth Maxwell of Troop 368.

Young couples group to meet

The first meeting of the Temple Emunah Young Couples Group will be held Saturday, Jan. 23 at 8 p.m. The group is open to all Jewish couples, ages 35 and under.

For an evening of games, conversation, and refreshments, reservations should be made with the Temple Emunah office, 861-0300. The location of the meeting will be determined by the number of reservations.

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Registration is underway and can be done by mail, in person, or by telephone. Academic planning assistance is available.

SPECIAL EVENING IN-PERSON REGISTRATION:

Lowell, Wannalancit Mill Campus, Thurs., Jan. 14, 7-9 p.m.
Chelmsford, High School, Tues., Jan. 19, 7-9 p.m.
Burlington, Burlington Campus, Wed. and Thurs., Jan. 20 and 21, 4:30-8:30 p.m.
Bedford, North Campus, Thurs., Jan. 28, 5:30-8 p.m.

Office at the MCC North Campus

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CONTINUING EDUCATION/COMMUNITY SERVICES

Arlington Catholic teacher honored for student successes

Sister Ruth Elizabeth, a faculty member at Arlington Catholic High School for the past 20 years, was recently honored by the Communication Association of Massachusetts as the Outstanding Educator of the Year.

The citation was presented to an overflow crowd at Faneuil Hall in Boston where the association honored Sister's efforts in the areas of coaching and training orators and debaters. A number of professional colleagues and past students of Sister were in attendance for the presentation.

Sister Ruth Elizabeth, a member of the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph for 55 years, trained high schoolers in communications at five high schools in greater Boston but received national prominence for her work at Arlington Catholic where students excelled at original oratory, debate,

interpretative reading and extemporaneous speaking.

Local and state organizations, including Arlington's Elks, American Legion, VFW and Knights of Columbus posts have all honored Sister's skill in past years. "It's estimated that her students amassed over a half-million dollars in scholarships due to their public speaking abilities as the result of her coaching," noted Kevin Greeley, an Arlington resident and one of her former students.

Other former speaking champions who gathered at the celebration included Fr. Lawrence Novello, Katherine Barrow, Dr. Larry Barton, Richard Russo, Michael Gallagher and Robert Carella.

The Communication Association co-sponsored the ceremony with Emerson University, whose president Allen Koenig was present for the award.

Two of Sister's students were national champions in the largest public speaking contest in the world, the American Legion's National Championship. In 1970, Michael Gallagher captured the title in Dallas, Texas, and again in 1974, Larry Barton was victorious at Sioux Falls, S.D.

School records show that several hundred ACHS students also benefited from the hours of training that Sister spent with students practicing and rehearsing for presentations and competitions around the country. Many are now successful in law, medicine, the arts and sciences, public service and industry.

Sister Ruth Elizabeth remains an active member of the ACHS faculty, teaching part-time and enjoying active contact with many former students. She is author of a popular communications textbook written in 1984 that is now being used in several area school systems.

POLICE LOG

Arrests

A 24-year-old Court Street man was arrested on Jan. 5 at the corner of Pleasant Street and Brunswick Road and charged with being in default of an Arlington Police warrant.

On Jan. 5, a 27-year-old Brighton man was arrested at Park Avenue and Appleton Streets and charged with speeding and operating a motor vehicle after suspension.

A 20-year-old Lynn man was arrested on Jan. 6 at about 4 a.m. after being pulled over at the corner of Mass. Avenue and Lowell Street. The man was found to be in default of outstanding warrants for traffic violations.

On Jan. 8, two 14-year-old East Arlington youths were arrested for breaking a window of a house on Marathon Street. The incident is being investigated by the juvenile officer.

A 25-year-old Belmont man was arrested on Jan. 10 after a police officer saw him speeding on the Route 2 access road.

The man was pulled over after driving the wrong way down one-way Chester Street and charged with speeding, a one-way violation and operating under the influence of alcohol.

A 20-year-old Framingham man was arrested on Brookdale Road after he was seen sitting in the car with the motor running at 4 a.m. on Jan. 11.

After being approached by an of-

ficer on patrol, the man was found to be driving a car that had been reported stolen in Framingham three days before.

He was also charged with operating a motor vehicle without a license and was wanted on outstanding warrants from West Bridgewater police.

Larcenies

On Jan. 6, a Lantern Lane man reported three hub caps and a hood ornament had been taken from a 1983 Cadillac Seville parked at his home.

An employee of Arlington Shell, 934 Mass. Ave., told police on Jan. 7 someone had driven off without paying for \$10.60 worth of gasoline.

A Medford reported a 20-foot ladder had been taken from his truck while it was parked on Jan. 7 in front of 1064 Mass. Ave.

On Jan. 7, a manager of the Brigham's on Mill Street told police \$360 had been missing from the night cash bag since Jan. 5.

An Amsden Street woman reported on Jan. 7 that \$300 had been taken from her first floor apartment.

Vandalism

On Jan. 5, a Lewis Avenue woman reported the rear window of her 1984 Toyota had been broken.

Four cars on Hamilton Road were reported damaged by vandals on Jan. 5. Damage included smashed windows and slashed tires.

A 1981 Volkswagen owned by a Medford man was heavily damaged after it was left in the Mill Street parking lot overnight on Jan. 5.

Also on Jan. 5, a Water Street woman reported windows had been broken in her car while it was parked in the Water Street lot.

Miscellaneous

A Palmer Street man lost control of the 1986 Bronco he was driving on Jan. 6 and struck a town tree on Beacon Street. The man also hit some Boston Edison wires.

A Belmont man was given a citation for driving to endanger after the car he was driving struck a 63-year-old Newton man, who was walking on Jan. 6 in front of 50 Pleasant St.

On Jan. 6, a Grandview Road woman lost control of the 1984 Chevrolet she was driving and hit three parked cars on Argyle Road.

Copy Deadline

Contributions for publication submitted by 4 p.m. Monday will be considered for that Thursday's paper. Contributors are requested to submit typed, double-spaced copy.

Submission by the deadline does not, however, guarantee publication the same week, as final decisions on what to include each week are made based on space considerations.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Square dancing in Burlington

The Red Hot Squares will hold a club dance on Saturday, Jan. 16 from 8:11 p.m. Bill McGee will be calling mainstream and Bill Chadwick will be cueing rounds. The dance will be held at the Fox Hill School off of Route 62 in Burlington.

The club holds open workshops for mainstream on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at 8 p.m. at the same school with Paul King calling. For further information call Chelmsford, 256-3617. Admission \$3.50 each.

Big dog show

set for Woburn

The Greater Lowell Kennel Club, Inc. will hold a dog show on Saturday, Jan. 16, from 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. at the North East Trade Center, 100 Sylvan Road, Woburn. This is an AKC approved dog show. Delegate to the AKC is Francis E. McKenna of Arlington.

The Merrimack Valley Kennel Club, Inc. will hold a Dog Show on Sunday, Jan. 17 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., at the Trade Center. This is an AKC

approved Dog Show.

On Saturday and Sunday there will be an exhibition in Dog Obedience by Carole Boland and Judi Bassett.

Part of the Proceeds will be donated to Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University, Lowell Humane Society, Hearing Dog and the Middlesex 4H Fair Scholarship Fund.

Entrance fee is \$3.00 - children under 12 free. For further information call 643-0652.

Alarik, Silverstein to sing at Uncle Sam's

Uncle Sam's Backyard will present two singer/songwriters on Friday, Jan. 15, starting at 8 p.m. The featured artists will be Scott Alarik and Deborah Silverstein. The coffeehouse, sponsored by the Arlington Folk Society and located in St. John's Church, 74 Pleasant St. in Arlington Center, features established folk artists on the third Friday of each month.

Alarik originally comes from Minnesota where he has been a regular on National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion." Garrison Keillor said of Alarik "It has been my pleasure many times to follow him on stage, and I seldom find an audience in such a good mood as when he's just been there."

He is an historian as well as a fine musician. His current labor of love is delving into the history of the Child ballads. Jeff McLaughlin wrote in the Boston Globe that Alarik is "a songwriter and storyteller with a melodic bass-baritone voice and a delightfully wry backbeat wit. His ballads and story-songs are beautifully crafted."

Silverstein's original songs combine bluegrass, blues, and Appalachian idioms with a wide range of contemporary and traditional themes. She has delighted audiences for nearly 15 years. Of her new album, Around the Next Bend, Holly Near says "Deborah shines like a northern star: guiding, constant, crystal clear."

A fine guitarist, singer, and songwriter, she was a founding

member of New Harmony Sisterhood, a five-woman string band. In 1980, she joined Fire on the Mountain, a traditional bluegrass band. Since 1982, however, she has been developing her solo repertoire, performing at festivals, clubs, and coffeehouses.

Admission will be \$5 or \$4.50 for members of the Arlington Folk Society. The show begins at 8 p.m. and the doors open at 7:30. Refreshments will be available. Next month will bring two national guitar champions with different styles: finger style picker Geoff Bartley and flatpicker Orrin Star. For more information, call the Arlington Folk Society at 646-2462. Uncle Sam's Backyard is sponsored in part by the Arlington Arts Council. Arts Alive!

Newbury begins course registration

Newbury College, located at the Arlington High School, is now registering area residents for the spring semester. Classes begin on Jan. 25.

Those interested can earn an

associate degree in applied science by attending classes only two evenings per week. Complete degree programs as well as individual courses are offered in accounting, computer science, business management, paralegal studies, travel and tourism, and word processing. One year certificate programs are also available.

For more information on classes and financial aid, call 648-5424. Newbury College is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Workshop on

aging parents set

"As Parents Grow Older: Caring and Coping" is the subject of a workshop offered by Dr. Eva Balazs on Monday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at the Senior Center, 27 Maple St., Arlington.

Are aging parents of concern to you? Do you feel caught between the responsibilities of caring for your own family and your parent? Or, a more recent phenomenon, are you yourself in retirement and also responsible for

your parent? Dr. Balazs will discuss these and other issues such as community resources, nursing homes, day care, and finances.

Dr. Balazs received her doctorate from Boston University, is a clinical psychotherapist and a licensed member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. She leads group therapy sessions and has a private practice for family consultation and psychotherapy.

The workshop is sponsored by Cooperative Elder Services and is open to the public and free of charge. For further information, call 646-1000, Ext. 4750.

Historical Society to hear band

The new New Orleans Jazz Band will perform at the next meeting of The Arlington Historical Society on Jan. 26. The program, which is free and open to the public, follows a business meeting at 8 p.m. at the Smith Museum, 7 Jason St.

For more information, call 648-4300.

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ABOUT TOWN

About-faces, sore knees and hold the egg salad

You would have thought the fate of the Western Hemisphere was hanging in the balance. Selectmen were debating whether to give carry-in wine privileges to an Arlington Center greasy spoon (best grease in town, silver spoon).

Always the consistent one, Selectman Charlie Lyons called the use of wine by patrons of the Arlington hash-slingers the worst thing since pin ball machines, gambling machines even. Enough to make you want to scoop up your kids and raise them in a real "dry" town, say, like Lynn.

Watered down family principles, that's what Lyons called the wrath of grapes.

The braggart said it was systematic of the "gentrification of town by city types." Where do you suppose the Lyons clan is from? County Faraway?

Anyway, no sooner had the audience decided that Lyons would be the last to cow-tow to the white wine and cheese set, (and the restaurants owners cried "conspiracy...") Lyons played spin the bottle with himself — and lost. He was facing the other way. Kiss the Arlington of past goodbye... hic, belch.

Suddenly Lyons sided with his old pal, Jack Donahue, the selectman who came in from the old. Not only was it good now for wine to be served, Lyons wanted no part of a move to put the question to the voters. Heck, they might vote it down.

It'll be a snowy day in August before this Man About Town can figure out Lyons, the man of forked tongue.

Some say, however, that Lyons was trying to help Donahue in his pursuit of a real seat on the board. Old rival Peg Spengler came out for the wine privilege. Donahue thinks it's only fair.

What's say we mend fences over a glass of bubbly?

Stay tuned....

Town Manager Donald Marquis was among the missing early this week. Perched by the telephone, he was at home. On The Rocks Park, his knee painfully out of commission.

Seems the administrator of the moment lost control... again. This time it was on a ski slope, we hear.

Apparently balancing a budget is not the same as negotiating the moguls. Happy mending, Don.

Whatever you do, don't order egg salad when Director of Assessment Bob "hold the mayo" Greeley is around. The man goes wild. Makes faces like kid at the dentist. You've been warned.

Easy come, easy go. That's what the Finance Committee said to those boys of the M Schedule, the modern-day way to create incentive for the best in municipal government.

On top of a 5 percent expected increase in pay for the next fiscal year, Selectman — led by Boy Wonder — wanted a 7 percent increase built in to the pay scale. And do it in the Special Town Meeting, for heaven's sake.

But, my, can't those FinCom folks add. Quick, get a pencil: 7 and 5 equals 12 percent. In a year. But only three of the town's best administrators would be affected, said Boy Wonder.

Too bad, said the FinCom-i-kaze. We'll ask Town Meeting Members, aka, the purse stringers, for 4 percent on top of 5 percent.

Nine percent, now that's not too bad.

The best supporting actress in a one-man play award this week goes to Selectmen Chairwoman Janemarie Hillier, who failed to pull in the reins when a debate got out of hand at a recent board meeting.

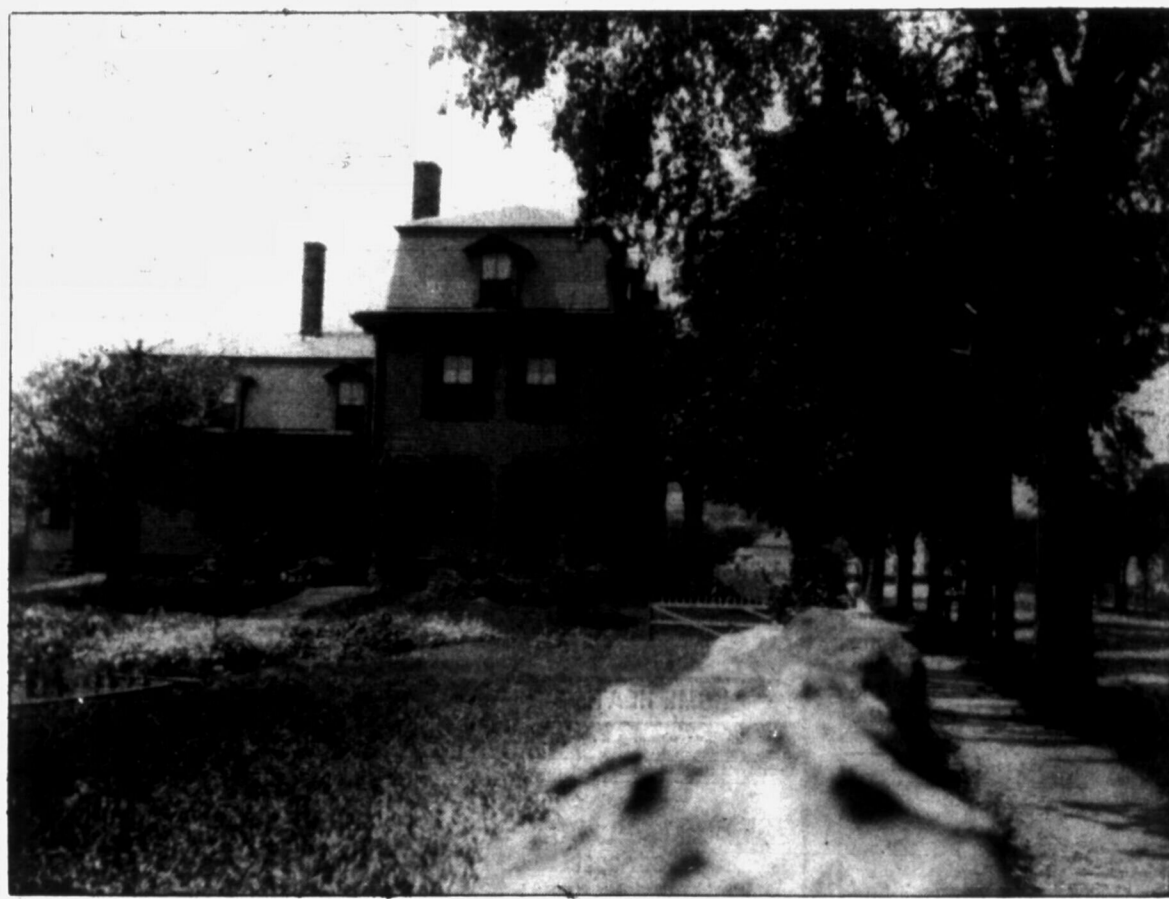
At one point — with folks in the audience, for crying out loud — there were at least four different motions, only one of which had been acknowledged by a second, before a vote — on who knows what — was taken.

To add insult to injury, the brat of the pack then had the audacity to virtually take over the meeting and decide the order and disposition of the agenda. Did we ever become a Board of Survey? Not on my map, folks.

Not the type of performance we'd expect from someone seeking reelection in a couple of months.

Perhaps the selectmen can learn a few pointers from the ZBA on procedure.

Images from our past



The graceful Henry Locke farm is surrounded by stone walls on a tree-lined Mass. Ave. across from what is today's Arlington High School. The farm house was later moved to Field Road or Bailey Road and the Mass. Ave. site used for commercial purposes.

(Courtesy Arlington Historical Society)

Guest column policy

The Advocate welcomes guest columns from those who live or work in Arlington or have an interest in an issue that affects the town or townspeople.

The more diversity of opinion the better. The paper reserves the right to edit the columns for taste, brevity and libelous statements.

Columns should be typed, double-spaced, and sent to: The Editor, Arlington Advocate, Arlington, MA 02174 at least a week before the publication date. A telephone number where the author can be reached should be included. Got an idea? Write it down.

Letters to The Editor are welcome on matters of interest to local readers. Deadline for submission is 4 p.m. on Monday. Letters should be typed and limited to 250 words. Names will be withheld upon request. Anonymous letters will not be published.

ROLL CALL

Massachusetts House
January 4-8, 1988

The House. "Beacon Hill Roll Call" records local representatives' votes on 9 roll calls from the final two days of the 1988 legislative session on January 5 and 6.

Sparklers (H 6195)- House 81-71, barely rejected a bill allowing the sale of sparklers and their use by persons over 21 on private property between June 1 and July 7 from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight.

Supporters, claiming sparklers are safe, said legalizing them will reduce the desire for dangerous fireworks.

Opponents said sparklers are dangerous and cause many injuries. Two weeks ago the House first approved 76-72, then rejected 79-56 the

same bill.

All three roll calls are listed. #1 is approval 76-72; #2 is defeat 79-56; #3 is defeat 81-71.

A Yea vote is for the bill. A Nay vote is against it.

Representative Robert Havern voted yes on the first, no on the second and no on the third roll call.

Representative Mary Jane Gibson voted yes on all three roll calls.

411 (H 6391)- House 89-63, gave near final approval to a bill allowing New England Telephone to charge residential customers for each call to directory assistance above 20 per month.

Supporters, noting most people don't make more than 20 calls to 411 monthly, said the bill will require 411 abusers to pay their share and will return millions to ratepayers.

Opponents, claiming the bill is a money grab by New England Telephone, said the bill will lead to a charge for all 411 calls. Two weeks ago, the House approved the bill by a wider 86-51 margin.

Both roll calls are listed. The first is 86-51 approval. The second is 89-63 approval.

A Yea vote is for the bill. A Nay vote is against it.

Havern voted yes on both roll calls.

Gibson voted yes on both roll calls.

Gay Rights (H 5469)- Senate 20-16, refused to discharge the "gay rights" bill onto the floor for a vote. The measure prohibits discrimination in credit, housing, employment and public accommodations based on sexual preference.

Supporters said this is the last

chance to vote on this bill which has already received initial approval. They noted the rules of the Senate are being abused by Senator Arthur Lewis who is bottling up the bill.

Opponents said Lewis is simply using Senate rules to kill the bill.

A Yea vote is for bringing the bill to the floor for a vote. A Nay vote is for keeping it in committee and letting it die for the year.

Kraus voted yes.

Smoking (H 3697)- Senate 32-3, gave final approval to the bill further regulating smoking in public and private buildings. Provisions include requiring state colleges to reserve some dormitory rooms for non-smokers and requiring a no-smoking section in restaurants which seat 75 people or more.

Kraus voted yes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

C-Team donation not in vain

TO THE EDITOR:

As parents who collected the generous donations from our respective P.T.O. organizations at Hardy and Thompson Schools to help send our valiant Arlington Pop Warner C-Team and Cheerleaders to Georgia, we want them to know our efforts were not in vain.

Their athletic and academic accomplishments do much credit for their Town of Arlington and the Arlington school system. We are proud of our Spy Ponder football players and cheerleaders for a good job, well done!

Carol Edwards
Sharon Scarlata

This man told my dad that there was nothing wrong with the water.

I wanted to go to the town hall myself with a bottle of this water and watch this man who said there's nothing wrong with the water drink a full glass himself and then tell me nothing is wrong with it! Since it was Christmas and I wasn't home long, I was unable to do that. However, you can bet I will be coming home again! And I will try to find that man at town hall and see if he likes to drink that water.

I think something should be done about this problem. If nothing can be, I'd sure like to know why not — maybe a reason could be printed in your paper.

Nancy Leach

Scott appreciate community sympathies

TO THE EDITOR:

We, the Scott Family, deeply wish to thank all of our neighbors and friends, and the students, teachers, and principals of the Thompson School, and St. Agnes School, who so lovingly and earnestly expressed their sympathies, in a myriad of ways, to our family, after the death of our daughter Whitney.

It has been said that in a time of crisis, people show their true colors. You all did, and they were brilliant. Though nothing can replace our loss, your concern has made it immensely easier for us.

June, Teddy,
& The Scott Girls

Public safety crews thanked

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to thank the Arlington Firefighters and Policemen for the compassion, understanding, and professionalism that they exhibited at the accident involving Whitney Scott, on Dec. 31, 1987.

Unusual circumstances bring out unusual qualities in people. This accident truly brought out the most positive and lustrous qualities of both Departments, in their handling of this difficult situation.

We, the relatives of Whitney, will be eternally grateful to those men for the care, compassion, and sensitivity that they extended to us at the scene where we lost one of our bright family lights all too soon.

Ralph Gordon Brooks
Uncle of Whitney Scott

Just say no to Contra aid

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing to remind the citizens of Arlington that President Reagan is expected to request more than \$240 million in Contra Aid this month to expand the war in Nicaragua. This is twice the amount of any previous request for the Contras.

This request follows years of reports of human rights violations by the Contras in both Nicaragua and Honduras. It follows the Iran-Contra scandal, and allegations that the Contras are very likely involved in drug-running. I urge all Arlingtonians who share my outrage at this request to contact Senators Kennedy and Kerry and Representative Kennedy to ask them to vote no on any Contra aid requests.

Congress must continue to hear from opponents to Contra Aid, as a recent request for interim funding passed in December. \$240 million could be put to much better use in our own country.

Judith Paradis

Wish list for needy children successful

TO THE EDITOR:

A sincere thank you to the many kind people who donated gifts to the Salvation Army Wish Upon A Star Tree at Arsenal Mall. The program well surpassed our expectations, thanks to your generous hearts. Over 150 needy children received exactly what they wanted for Christmas because of the special people like you who really care.

Aileen Horowitz
Events & Merchandise Manager
Arsenal Mall

Questions need for parked cars

TO THE EDITOR:

One side parking only is permitted on Marion Road in East Arlington. For many years there were four signs posted to that effect. These past few years, two of those signs were damaged, then removed. The public works department states that the police alone may request these signs be replaced.

I have phoned the Arlington Police Department three times in the past few months to report the same

automobiles parked consistently on the wrong side of the street. Once I even supplied the registration numbers. Each time I was assured the matter would be handled promptly. To date, no such luck.

Almost every day the same cars are parked in the same spots illegally. Each of the homes has a driveway, incidentally. Try to maneuver this narrow street at times — and don't even think about emergency vehicles or fire engines.

One afternoon an Arlington police car was parked at the corner on Marion Road, trying to catch speeders on Mass. Ave. — lawbreakers to be sure; yet in full daylight, this same policeman could not see the lawbreakers and safety-endangerers who left their automobiles parked on the wrong side of the street. Someone tells me a town employee lives in one of these two homes. Could this explain why two signs disappeared, why the signs cannot be replaced, and/or why the police seem indifferent to this serious problem?

M. Rancatore

Life support team thanked

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing this letter to thank the Advance Life Support unit for what they did for my wife on the evening of Dec. 18. She had a fainting spell and I did not know what had happened, so I called the Life Support unit. They were very prompt in getting to our house and did an excellent job of getting my wife up and around again. It is good to know that a unit such as this is around to help the people of Arlington. Can't thank them all enough for what they did for us.

Stanley Farrington

Thankful for police, firefighter response

TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks to the Arlington Fire and Police Departments and all those who responded so quickly and worked so hard to save my husband's life on Dec. 29.

All the Clark Family appreciate their kindness to all of us, and although his recovery was not to be, we feel so grateful for your dedication.

We folks in Arlington are fortunate to have these grand people in our town. Mrs. Charles W. Clark and Family

The Arlington Advocate

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That people everywhere may better understand the Circumstances of Publique Affairs. Benj. Harris

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TOWN HALL ROUNDUP

(Continued from page 5)

Offices up for grabs in the town election include two seats on the Board of Selectmen, two seats on the School Committee, an assessor's seat, and a Housing Authority seat. Also on the block are a slew of Town Meeting Member seats, more than usual because of redistricting.

Also on the town ballot April 9 will be at least one referendum question, including one asking if townspeople want the whistle at the fire stations in the center and at Highland to blow thrice daily.

Also formalized Monday was the last date when blank nomination papers may be taken from the town clerk. People interested in running for offices may pull papers until 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25.

All nomination papers for certification of signatures must be done by 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 29 to appear on the April 9 ballot.

The last day for voters to register for the town election is Friday, March 18.

Rent question at Senior Center postponed by selectmen

Selectmen, miffed that a letter was sent implying that the Senior Center would have to put a warrant on the annual Town Meeting to pay rent, have voted to change a timetable.

The timetable dictates when a grace period expires for rent-free status of the seniors group at the former Central School at Maple and

Academy Streets.

According to the timetable set up 1 1/2 years ago when the building's renovation was finished, after three years time a decision would be made on whether or not rent should be charged to the organization, one of several in the building.

Alan McClenen Jr., director of planning and community development, sent a letter to the Council on Aging recently reminding them that they may have to pay rent. To do so they would have had to put an article on the warrant closing Feb. 1 to have the town appropriate the money.

Selectmen voted, however, to move the end of the grace period up by six weeks so that the grace period extends through the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Some members of the board, Charlie Lyons and Jack Donahue, were critical of McClenen and the letter, saying it was unnecessarily worrying seniors and that paying rent would be taking money from one town agency and giving it to another.

Still other selectmen, Bob Walsh and Steve Conroy, said they questioned if charging rent was a good idea, but said the building was under the jurisdiction of the Redevelopment Board, which McClenen was representing in the letter.

The building is under control of the Redevelopment Board, and is using rents from tenants other than the senior group to cover costs. The building is operating at no cost to the town.

Classified Deadline Tuesday 12:00 P.M. Call 729-8100

Finance Committee pares down some articles

By JOHN ARONSON
Special to The Advocate

As a prelude to the Special Town Meeting on Jan. 25, the Finance Committee gave their nod and made adjustments to the 12 items included in the warrant.

The Fincom first considered Article 2, a request by the town manager that \$277,000 be appropriated to cover a shortfall in the town's group health insurance budget caused, according to the selectmen, by unexpectedly large medical expenses of individuals covered by the town's group health plan.

Under the plan, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Master Health, the town is essentially a self-insurer for all covered medical expenses up to a "stop loss" limit of \$40,000 for each covered individual. It was suggested by the Fincom that the town should investigate whether a "stop loss" limit on all covered expenses, in addition to the \$40,000 limit per individual, should be obtained and the committee voted to recommend approval of this article for a sum not to exceed \$277,000.

Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the warrant deal with insurance. Article 3 requests the Special Town Meeting to approve a by-law authorizing the town to indemnify all town officials against legal expenses in the defense

of lawsuits arising in the course of their official duties, and requests the sum of \$50,000 for this purpose in fiscal year 1989.

Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9 deal with pay raises. With little discussion, the Fincom voted to recommend the expenditure of \$217,500 to fund pay raises for the police officers for fiscal year 1986 through 1989 and \$310,000 for similar

raises for the firefighters.

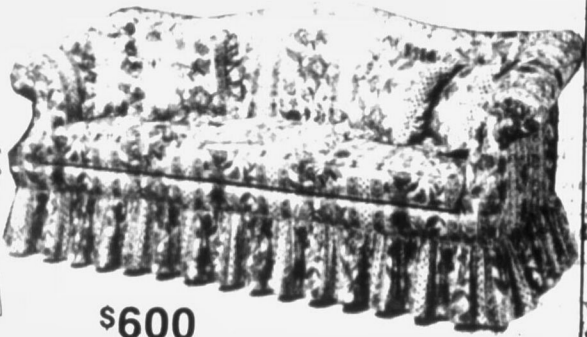
Article 9 seeks the approval of the Special Town Meeting to expend money after July 1, on merit pay raises for various employees under so-called Schedule M. After prolonged discussions and by a less than unanimous vote, the Fincom voted to recommend that the highest and the lowest authorized pay under Schedule

M be increased by 4 percent and to approve the appropriation of \$21,000 to fund merit pay raises on the recommendation of the Town Manager. Included in this sum would be funds to raise the pay of the town manager.

The Fincom voted to recommend no action on a proposal to raise the salary of the town clerk and the town treasurer.

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Raichle Viva Mens & Ladies	160.00	80.00
Raichle Vista Mens & Ladies	175.00	87.50
Raichle 360 Mens & Ladies	230.00	115.00
Raichle 560 Mens	250.00	125.00
Raichle 660 Mens	275.00	110.00
Raichle RX 960 Mens	345.00	207.00
Dolomite 260 Mens	155.00	77.50
Dolomite 270 Mens	175.00	75.50
Dolomite 280 Mens	205.00	102.50
Dolomite 300 Mens	225.00	112.50
Dolomite 700 Mens	305.00	152.50
Dolomite 150 Ladies	175.00	87.50
Dolomite 130 Ladies	155.00	77.50
Technus Pro Mens	260.00	156.00
Technus Comp Mens	310.00	186.00

BINDINGS	VALUE	SALE PRICE
Salomon 127M Jr	75.00	45.00
Salomon 147	92.00	43.00
Salomon 647	114.95	69.00
Salomon 647L	114.95	69.99
Salomon 747	134.95	93.00
Salomon 747E	149.95	90.00
Salomon 347	94.50	57.00
Salomon 137	64.50	38.00
Tyrolia 403 Jr	50.00	30.00
Tyrolia 490 RDJ	85.00	50.00
Tyrolia 420	140.00	57.00
Tyrolia 290	140.00	57.00
Tyrolia 470	100.00	60.00
Tyrolia 480	145.00	87.00
Tyrolia 490	165.00	99.00
Tyrolia 490 RD	185.00	110.00



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SKIS	VALUE	SALE PRICE
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Kastle FW Comfort	235.00	117.00
Kastle SX 350	250.00	125.00
Kastle Mag Light	345.00	207.00
Kastle Synergy	325.00	195.00
Kastle National Team RX	350.00	210.00
Head Jr SC	95.00	57.00
Head Magnum	250.00	100.00
Head Radial Carbon	315.00	189.00
Head Radial Hot	299.99	150.00
Head Flex	250.00	100.00
Head Classic Flair	275.00	110.00
Head Radial Sr	350.00	175.00
Head Supra	275.00	110.00
Head Radial SL	385.00	230.00
Dynastar Visa	240.00	120.00
Dynastar RX 550	160.00	96.00
Dynastar Dynaflex	190.00	76.00
Hagan 6200 Team Jr	100.00	50.00
Hagan 6200	180.00	72.00
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CAMBRIDGE STORE MON-SAT 9:30-9:00 • SUN 12:00-6:00

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Local condo market, while still strong, has chilled some

(Continued from page 1)

struction keeps real estate prices higher than in some surrounding areas."

Dawny Gerszkowitz, a high school teacher, thought that Arlington was more expensive than comparable towns, but enjoyed the town's ambience and services enough to stay. Said Gerszkowitz, "I like the town's feeling and the library and parks close by." Requiring additional space, she recently sold her one-bedroom condo at Pond Lane Condominiums (between Massachusetts Avenue and Spy Pond) and bought a two-bedroom 1½ bath unit at Millbrook for about \$145,000.

On possibly the last significant lot available for construction in Arlington, Eastern Harbor Associates recently began construction of Reed Brook Village, a 250-unit condo development that will cover 21 acres and is expected to be completed by fall, 1988. Each unit has two bedrooms, 1 to 2½ baths, modern kitchen, fireplace and patio or deck. The development will include a pool, tennis courts and a clubhouse equipped with a function room, kitchen, sauna and whirlpool. There are two condo models available at Reed Brook: the 1,130 square foot two-bedroom, two-bath garden unit, selling for \$199,900, and the two-bedroom, 2½ bath townhouse unit, about 1,500 square feet and selling for \$237,500. According to Tom True, president of Eastern Harbor Associates, "Of the 57 units we've sold in the last three weeks, about 30 have been bought by Arlington residents."

Another Arlington condo development currently under construction is Rembrandt Condominiums, located on the Massachusetts Avenue site of the Cherney Furniture store. This single building development is being

constructed by Royal Heritage Development Company, based in Arlington, and Rose-Mal Development, and will have 45 units completed for occupancy by late summer.

The development has been marketed in two phases, with Phase One offered for sale last February. According to John Blackburn, president of Royal Heritage, "Phase One's 37 units sold out within three days after being offered, and about 80 percent of them went to 'empty nest' couples that were current or former residents of Arlington. Phase One units' prices ranged from \$169,900 for one-bedroom, one-bath, to \$243,900 for two-bedrooms, two-baths."

Phase Two, involving the ground floor of the building, will contain nine units and is about to go on sale. All Phase Two units will feature a private patio and will start at \$198,900 for a one-bedroom, one-bath unit, and run up to \$269,900 for a large two-bedroom, two-bath unit. When completed, Rembrandt Condominiums will also offer underground parking and a rooftop clubhouse with a gym and fireplace.

Other condominiums available in Arlington are units in conversions and "rehab." Conversion units are apartments that have been converted to condominiums and tend to be the least expensive. Rehab are older buildings that have been gutted and rebuilt to house condominiums, usually with mid-market prices. The 272 units at Old Colony (listed for \$118,000 to \$157,000), located off Massachusetts Avenue on Old Colony Lane, and the 120 units at The Brentwood (listed for \$83,000 to \$161,495) on Pleasant Street, are all conversions. Two rehabilitated Arlington buildings now containing condos are the Cutter and Locke Schools, with units going for over \$200,000.

McClennen feels that an increasing source of new condos will be single family homes that have been converted. States McClennen, "Arlington gained most of its population and construction in the post-war '40s and '50s when families began to move out of Boston and into neighboring suburbs." Those families are now matured and are selling their homes; however, the prohibitive price of real estate can make the sale of single family homes difficult and prompt the conversion of homes into less expensive and more easily sold condo units.

The good news for buyers is that condo prices, even in Arlington, seem to be coming down. According to Harry Barber, many Arlington condominiums have recently been selling for about \$10,000 less than the listed price. "At Millbrook, two-bedroom, two-bath condos have been reduced from \$149,900 to \$139,900. At Colonial Village, one-bedroom units have been reduced from \$115,000 and \$119,000, down to \$106,000. Brookside's 500 square foot, one-bedroom condominiums are listed at \$89,000, but are actually selling for less."

Norma Osbourne, a registered nurse, recently bought a one-bedroom, one-bath condo at Colonial Village for \$108,000, which was \$16,000 less than what it had been offered for in early 1987. Said Osbourne, "Earlier in the year, I had difficulty finding realtors who would seriously work with me, once they had learned of my price range." A long time resident of Arlington, Osbourne liked the convenience, safety, services and social mix of the town. After some comparative shopping in Lincoln, Winchester, Medford, Newton and West Roxbury, Osbourne decided that Arlington also offered the best condominium values.

Last month, a Cambridge comput-

er scientist paid \$176,000 for one of two condominiums in a converted Victorian on Crescent Street. She had been looking since fall 1986, and until December, had a difficult time locating any condos located in converted single-family homes, let alone one in her price range. Arlington also appealed to this buyer because of its lack of rent control and its proximity to Cambridge.

At the end of October, after look-

ing sporadically for about a year, Don Rumery bought a 750-square-foot one-bedroom, one-bath conversion unit, with a balcony, for \$112,000 at Pond Lane Condominiums because it was "easily the best deal I saw." Rumery, raised in Belmont, gave the cable television system as his primary reason for choosing Arlington. "I'm a big Celtics fan and cable television carries the games." When pressed, Rumery admitted that he had also looked in Medford, Somerville and Cam-

bridge, but didn't like the neighborhoods as much. Said Rumery, "I'm in a good neighborhood and I'm close to the Red Line, which is convenient since I work downtown."

Despite its holiday slump in condominium sales, Arlington, with its small town ambience, wide range of services, convenient location and easing prices, seems to have maintained the interest of both condo buyers and sellers.

State laws designed to protect tenants from condo conversions

The following explains tenants' rights in Massachusetts in regard to condominium conversion. It was written by Attorney General James Shannon.

To buy or not to buy? And what are my rights? These are the questions many tenants ask with the conversion of thousands of rental housing units to condominiums throughout the state.

If the owners of your building intends to convert it to condominiums or cooperatives the owner must issue a written notice to all tenants. That notice must state clearly and conspicuously that (1) the owner intends to file or has filed a master deed creating the condominium, or articles of organization creating a housing cooperative; (2) any current tenants shall have the period of time stated in the notice before they must vacate the premises; and (3) tenants have an option to purchase a unit before it is offered on the open market.

Specifically, the notice must state

that a tenant has the right to remain for at least one year from the date of the notice to convert. Additionally, in the case of an apartment occupied by a handicapped, elderly, or low or moderate income tenant, those tenants may remain in the apartment for at least two years, after receiving the notice of intent. In short, you cannot be evicted simply because your unit is being converted, before the applicable notice period expires. You are not however, protected from eviction for nonpayment of rent or other

The notice you receive must also state the 90-day right of purchase which begins when you receive a purchase and sale agreement from the owner. The terms and conditions on which you are entitled to purchase your unit must be substantially the same as or more favorable than those which the owner extends to the public. If you are considering purchasing your unit, you should familiarize yourself with the condition of the building and any expenses you will in-

cur before signing a purchase and sale agreement.

If you decide to move and not to purchase your unit you can be reimbursed for the actual, documented costs of moving. Reimbursements are generally allowed up to \$750, with handicapped, elderly, or low or moderate income tenants' costs capped at \$1,000. To receive relocation benefits, all rent must be paid in full and in accordance with your rental agreement, and you must relocate before the notice period expires.

As an elderly, handicapped, or low or moderate income tenant, the owner of your apartment must assist your search for comparable housing. If the owner cannot locate comparable housing at an equal or less rent than you now pay, you have the right to remain in your unit for four years—that's an additional two years to the required notice period.

During the notice period, your annual rent may not be increased by more than the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year or 10 percent, whichever is less. However, if your lease has a lawful tax escalation provision, your rent can go up under that determination.

All of these rights are specified in the condominium conversion statute, Chapter 527 of the Acts of 1983. Some communities, such as Cambridge and Boston, have enacted ordinances which give tenants comparable, although not identical, rights when their apartments are converted to condominiums or cooperatives. If you receive a notice to convert from the owner of your building and are uncertain whether your town or city has its own ordinance, contact your local town or city hall or local consumer group, listed in the phone book under "Community Service Numbers." If your community does not have a local consumer group, and you have questions, please call my office at 727-8400.

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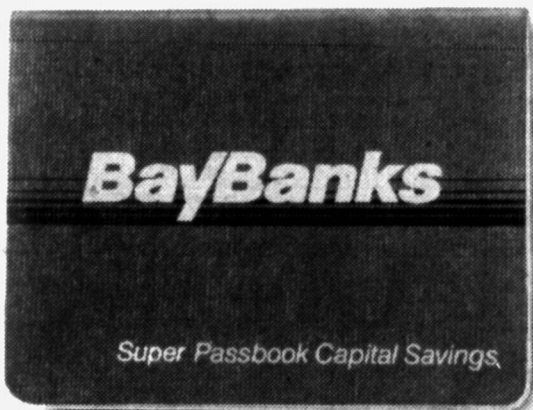
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YOUR QUESTIONS WILL
BE ANSWERED HERE

This is to introduce a series of answers-to-questions we've been getting lately. We'll be discussing various aspects of death-and-bereavement, coping with loss of loved ones, how you explain death to a child, behavior towards the bereaved and what might you say... the importance of pre-planning one's funeral arrangements.

Our goal always is to handle these precious personal matters in your best interests. To serve you better, we've studied the latest in pertinent philosophical and psychological materials. We have discussed these problems with the clergy, the lawyers and doctors to prepare ourselves for the best and most fitting answers for you.

If your reading these columns will ever help you through a trying time, this will have all been worth it. We invite your questions. We'll answer them in private or publicly through this column.

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